



# ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY REGULATIONS, 2019

## Reporting an Environmental Emergency

When a hazardous substance, such as propane or ammonia, is accidentally released or released without authorization, prompt and accurate reporting of the incident is essential. It helps ensure that affected parties are notified in a timely manner and can reduce harmful environmental and human health impacts.

The person responsible for a facility must provide both verbal and written reports. The *Environmental Emergency Regulations, 2019*, tell companies what kind of information to include in written release reports, detail when they are required, as well as how and where to direct them.

### What Kind of Incident to Report:

Whenever any of the 249 hazardous substances listed in Schedule 1 of the Regulations are released accidentally, or without authorization, it must be reported. Under the Regulations, an accidental release or knowing a release is going to occur and being unable to stop it are both considered environmental emergencies. This is because they can cause harmful effects such as damage to the environment, human health or safety and/or property damage.

### When to Report:

#### 1. Verbal Reporting:

As soon as a release occurs, or the possibility of a release becomes apparent, report it **without delay**.

Call the 24/7 Environmental Emergency Reporting number in the province or territory where the release occurred (see map below).

#### 2. Written Reporting:

A Schedule 8, *Written Report of an Environmental Emergency*, must be submitted to the Regional Director, Environmental Enforcement Directorate at Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) in the region where the emergency occurs. The report is to be submitted as soon as is reasonably possible after an incident (see how to report).

Reports must include:

- Contact information of the reporter
- Date and time of the release
- Location of the release
- Quantity and concentration of the substance released
- Description of the container system and its condition
- Description of the potential harmful effects of the emergency



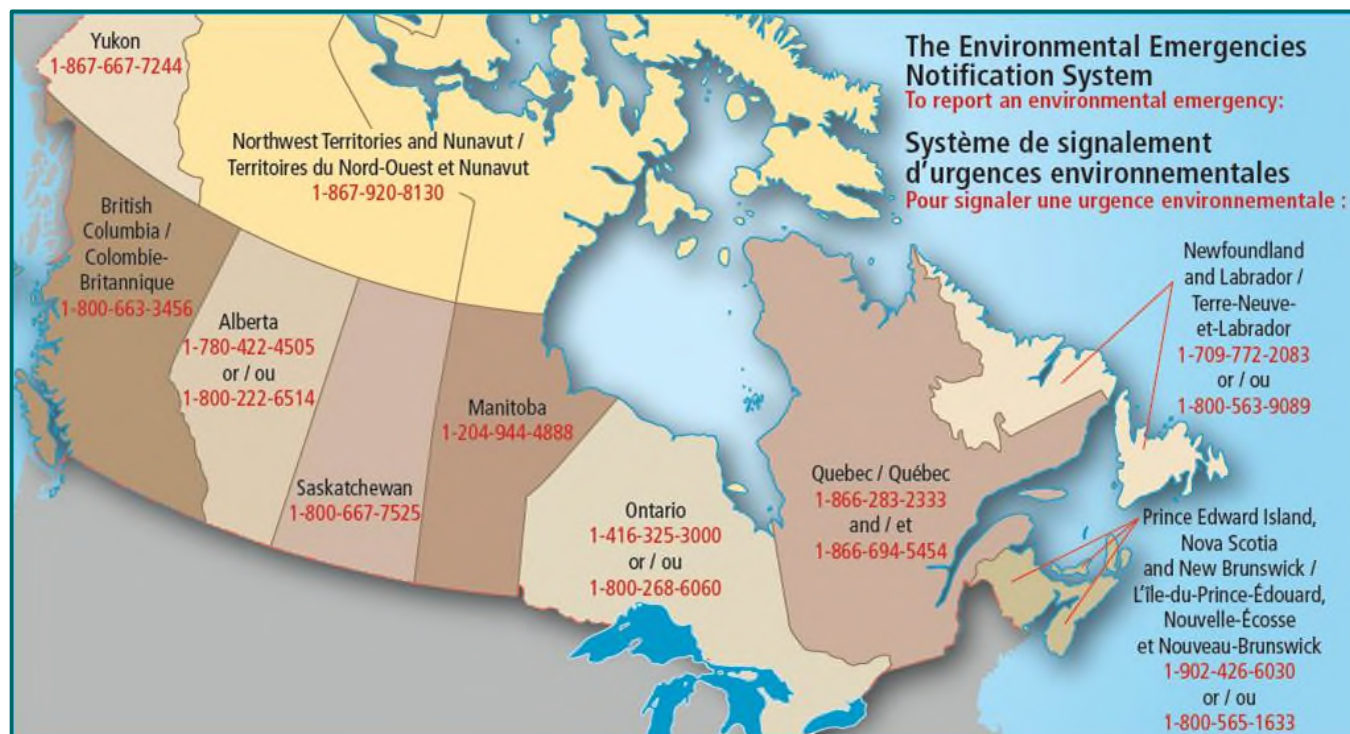
- Description of the circumstances leading to the emergency, including measures taken to mitigate any harmful effects on the environment and human health
- Description of all measures taken to prevent similar events

### Who Must Report:

Any person who releases, causes or allows the release or has charge, management or control of the released substance must report it.

### How to Report:

Reports must be submitted through the Environmental Emergency Reporting System: <https://ec.ss.ec.gc.ca>



*Disclosure: this material has been prepared for convenience of reference and accessibility and does not have an official character. It is of a general nature only. For all purposes of interpreting and applying the Regulations, users must consult the official version of the Environmental Emergency Regulations, 2019 and seek their own legal advice as appropriate.*

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT [CANADA.CA/ENVIRONMENTAL-EMERGENCY-REGULATIONS](https://canada.ca/environmental-emergency-regulations), OR CONTACT YOUR REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE:**

National Office: [ec.ue-e2.ec@canada.ca](mailto:ec.ue-e2.ec@canada.ca)

Quebec: [ec.ue-qc-e2.ec@canada.ca](mailto:ec.ue-qc-e2.ec@canada.ca)

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